

REMARKS

Claims 1-89 are pending, of which Claims 3, 7, 16, 33, 39, 40, 47, 54, 61, 64, 68, 73, 77, 86 and 89 are independent. Claims 1, 2, 4-6, 8-15, 17-19, 21-32, 34-39, 62, 63, 65-67, 69-72, 74-76, 78-85 and 87-89 were rejected. Applicants note with appreciation that Claims 40-61 were allowed. Applicants also note with appreciation that Claims 3, 7, 16, 20, 33, 64, 68, 73, 77 and 86 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base and any intervening claims. To expedite allowance of the application, Claims 3, 7, 16, 20, 33, 64, 68, 73, 77 and 86 are rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base and any intervening claims and Claims 1, 14, 27, 62, 71 and 80 are cancelled by the present amendment. Acceptance and allowance are respectfully requested.

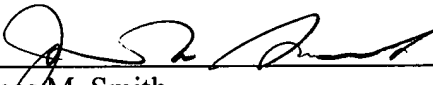
Claim 39 is a means-plus function claim, which has been amended to parallel the limitations set forth in allowed Claim 3. Claim 89 is a means-plus function claim, which has been amended to parallel the limitations set forth in allowed Claim 77. Therefore, Claims 39 and 89 are also in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the rejections of Claims 39 and 89 are respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is believed that all claims are in condition for allowance, and it is respectfully requested that the application be passed to issue. If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this case, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

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